



COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT COMMITTEE

MEETING SUMMARY

AUGUST 25, 2021 – 10:00 AM

TOWN HALL MEETING ROOM

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- **WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENT OF IN-PERSON AND VIRTUAL CEC MEMBERS AND PUBLIC PARTICIPANTS** – The meeting attendance was as follows: In-Person: Sue Callaway, Chair; Donna Farrow, Bobbe Stephan, Kent Stephan and Carol Stevenson; Remote Access: Christi Bernlorh, Ingrid Moore, Mo Webster, and Jon Stiffler, Public Works. Susan Spingler was absent
 - **PUBLIC COMMENTS** – No public was in attendance
 - **APPROVAL OF THE APRIL CEC SUMMARY:** Bobbe Stephan motioned for approval and Ingrid offered the second motion. The FINAL summary was unanimously approved and posted on the CEC website on August 27th.
 - **CEC MEMBER COMMENTS**
 - Ingrid Moore noted that the pedestrian, cycle and auto traffic along Canal Drive between Tamarack and Russell is exceedingly busy and asked if a walkway could be installed in that location to improve safety. **Addendum:** Ingrid has forwarded this request to the newly formed Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Ad Hoc Committee.
 - Donna Farrow commented on how helpful the solar lights are on the handicapped walkway to the beach.
 - Carol Stevenson noted that the canal end along Canal Drive at the intersection of Tamarack and Canal is over grown and has trees growing by

the bulkhead. **Addendum:** Sue Callaway notified Public Works and this canal end will be remediated in the fall when traffic is less.

- Sue Callaway noted that the future FY 23 budget may have to include funds for new Little Free Libraries as they were initially installed 8 years ago and are beginning to show signs of disrepair.
- Sue Callaway also brought forward the idea of advocating for a code enforcement assistant to be available during the months of April to October when the current assistant is serving as lifeguard captain. The assistant has proven to be helpful in surveying the town as the Code Enforcement Officer is very busy with time consuming new building and renovation permits. It was discussed that during this 6-month time period, some property maintenance and maintenance of new and renovation building site issues are not noted. After discussion the CEC unanimously supported this idea. **Addendum:** Sue presented the idea to Maureen Hartman and Joe Hinks at a meeting on August 26, 2021.
- There was a question regarding the status of the oyster beds and floating gardens. Sue noted that Jack Whitney is the new chair of the Water Quality Committee and she would reach out to him. **Addendum:** Sue emailed Jack Whitney on September 2 requesting an update on the two water quality initiatives and received an email response on September 2.

- **UPDATE FROM PUBLIC WORKS – JON STIFFLER**

- Due to a water break, Jon was unable to attend the full meeting but noted that Public Works was continuing to be busy with its summer responsibilities. Sue requested that Public Works review the north bio retention beds as they seem to be in need of maintenance. **Addendum:** Sue and Rick Gentile reviewed all the beds in the Route 1 Median on 9-1-21 and discussed plans to thin out several of the beds in the fall.

- **UPDATE ON ADOPT PROGRAM – W. 3RD ST.; W. 1ST.; AND ROUTE 1 NEW COMPLETED**

- Sue noted that these 3 canal ends are the newest ones in the program. The program continues to function well. CEC members Donna Farrow, Susan Spingler and Christi Bernlohr played an important role in these adoptions.

- **FLAGS FOR HEROES - PLANS FOR LABOR DAY WEEKEND**

- After discussion, Jon Stiffler proposed that the Public Works staff assume full responsibility for the holiday weekend flag installation. The group agreed that this was the most efficient process. **Addendum:** The flags were installed for Labor Day weekend on Thursday, September 2nd and look great. Thank you Public Works for assuming this task.

- **UPDATE ON BIKE REPAIR STATION**

- The town manager reported to Sue Callaway that the bike repair station has been well received and that there have been no complaints or maintenance issues since its installation.

- **PLANS FOR SOUTH BETHANY ART IN THE HALL PHOTOGRAPHY/ART EXHIBIT – JUNE 2022**

- While this exhibit was not up for immediate planning, Sue Callaway brought forward the budgeted item of a photography exhibit in June 2022. The group assessed the current support for this event and members unanimously endorsed moving forward with planning the event based on the status of Covid and any possible future building renovation. When asked, the group has no interest in holding the event in a location outside of South Bethany. The group supported the June date rather than earlier in the spring as that is when a greater number of property owners are in town. Carol Stevenson suggested that the opening night reception be held outdoors using the tents purchased for town's 50th Anniversary event. The idea was well-received as that frees up more space to set up the art work in the Council Meeting room and allows an easier flow for guests to view the on-going Exhibit.

- **FUTURE INITIATIVES – LOOKING AHEAD TO FY23** – Sue asked the group to spend some time thinking about future initiatives to be included in the FY23 Budget. The suggestions would be discussed and reviewed at the November CEC meeting. The date for that meeting is TBD.

- **ADJOURNMENT** – Kent Stephan offered the first motion for adjournment and was seconded by Donna Farrow. The meeting adjourned at 11:20 am.